

CLAIMS

1. A method of controlling wireless transmission by one or more wireless devices (10), comprising measuring a transmission activity level of one or more wireless devices (10) and, in response to the measured transmission activity level complying with a predetermined criterion, controlling the transmission activity of at least one of the wireless devices (10).
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2. A method of controlling wireless transmission as claimed in claim 1, wherein measuring the transmission activity level comprises measuring the proportion of transmission time over a first predetermined time period
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3. A method of controlling wireless transmission as claimed in claim 1, wherein measuring the transmission activity level comprises measuring an indication of aggregate power transmitted by a plurality of the wireless devices (10) averaged over a second predetermined time period
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4. A method of controlling wireless transmission as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein controlling the transmission activity comprises reducing the transmit power level of one or more of the devices (10).
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5. A method of controlling wireless transmission as claimed in claim 4, wherein the reduction in power level comprises prohibiting transmission by one or more of the devices for a third predetermined time period.
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6. A method of controlling wireless transmission as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the predetermined criterion is location dependent.
7. A method of controlling wireless transmission as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6, wherein controlling the transmission activity comprises scheduling the transmission activity in accordance with a stored timetable.
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8. A method of controlling wireless transmission as claimed in claim 7, further comprising updating the time table in response to location information received from at least one of the devices (10).

5 9. A method of controlling wireless transmission as claimed in claim 8, further comprising updating the time table in response to a received congestion bulletin.

10 10. Apparatus (20) for controlling wireless transmission by one or more wireless devices, comprising measurement means (22) for measuring a transmission activity level of one or more wireless devices (10) and control means (24) responsive to the measured transmission activity level complying with a predetermined criterion for controlling the transmission activity of at least one of the wireless devices (10).

15 11. Apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the measurement means (22) is adapted for measuring the transmission activity level as the proportion of transmission time over a first predetermined time period

20 12. Apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the measurement means (22) is adapted for measuring the transmission activity level as an indication of aggregate power transmitted by a plurality of the wireless devices (10) averaged over a second predetermined time period

25 13. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 10 to 12, wherein the control means (24) is adapted to control the transmission activity by reducing the transmit power level of one or more of the devices (10).

30 14. Apparatus as claimed in claim 13, wherein the control means (24) is adapted to control the transmission activity by prohibiting transmission by one or more of the devices (10) for a third predetermined time period.

15. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 10 to 14, wherein the measurement means (22) is adapted to vary the predetermined criterion in response to an indication of the location of the apparatus.

5 16. Apparatus as claimed in claim 15, comprising location means (26) adapted to generate the indication of the location of the apparatus.

10 17. Apparatus as claimed in any of claims 10 to 12, wherein the control means (24) further comprises memory means (28) for storing a time table and wherein the control means (24) is configured to control the transmission activity of at least one of the wireless devices (10) by scheduling the transmission activity in accordance with the stored timetable.

15 18. Apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the control means 24 is configured to update the time table in response to location information received from at least one of the devices (10).

20 19. Apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the control means 24 is configured to update the time table in response to a received congestion bulletin.

25 20. A system comprising an apparatus as claimed in any of claims 10 to 19 and one or more wireless devices (10) comprising a transmitter means (12) responsive to signalling generated by the control means (24) for varying the transmission activity.